

**Illiana Corridor**  
**Will and Kankakee Counties, Illinois, and Lake County, Indiana**  
**TIER TWO FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

Submitted Pursuant to 42 USC 4332 (2)(c) and 49 USC 303 by  
the US Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration,  
Illinois Department of Transportation, and Indiana Department of Transportation

**Cooperating Agencies**

US Army Corps of Engineers - Chicago District, US Coast Guard District 8 (St. Louis),  
US Department of Agriculture - Forest Service, US Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service,  
US Environmental Protection Agency, Illinois Department of Natural Resources,  
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic  
Preservation and Archaeology, and Indiana State Department of Agriculture

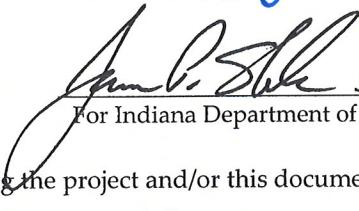
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The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) propose a transportation solution to improve regional mobility, address local system deficiencies, and provide efficient movement of freight in the Illiana Corridor between I-55 on the west and I-65 on the east. This Tier Two Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) considers three mainline alternatives, along with a No-Action Alternative. In addition, five interchange design options at IL-53 are under consideration. Ten other interchanges (seven in Illinois and three in Indiana) are planned. In consideration of the technical analysis in the Tier Two EIS and the comments received during the comment period on the Tier Two Draft EIS, Alternative 1 with IL-53 Design Option 4 is identified as the Preferred Alternative.

The Preferred Alternative has a length of approximately 50.3 miles. Wetland impacts are 64.20 acres, with 26.26 acres of impacts to High Quality Aquatic Resources. Floodplain fill volumes are 277.8 acre-feet for the Preferred Alternative with 6.58 acres of stream area impacted. Other adverse effects associated with the Preferred Alternative include impacts to the federally endangered sheepnose mussel, Eryngium stem borer moth (candidate), and the northern long-eared bat (proposed); 9.67 acres of noteworthy prairie; and a Section 4(f) *de minimis* impact to the Wauponsee Glacial Trail. There are 73.15 acres of potential indirect impact to existing grassland bird habitat at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie. Mitigation for impacts is addressed in this FEIS, and will be further developed during Clean Water Act permitting as well as other coordination with state and federal agencies.

The Final EIS will be made available for a minimum 30-day waiting period prior to FHWA issuing a Record of Decision.

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## List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

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|        |  |        |   |
|--------|--|--------|---|
| AADT   | Average Annual Daily Traffic                                       | AQ     | Aesthetic Quality   |
| AAR    | Association of American Railroads                                  | ARP    | Archaeological Research Program   |
| AASHTO | American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials | ASTM   | American Society for Testing and Materials                                      |
| ACF    | Alternatives Carried Forward                                       | BA     | Biological Assessment   |
| ACG    | The al Chalabi Group, Ltd.   | BDE    | Bureau of Design and Environment  |
| ACS    | American Community Survey  | BGEPA  | Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act  |
| ACHP   | Advisory Council on Historic Preservation                          | BMPs   | Best Management Practices   |
| ACFTM  | Alternatives to be Carried Forward Technical Memorandum            | BNSF   | Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway  |
| ADA    | Americans with Disabilities Act                                    | BO     | Biological Opinion  |
| ADT    | Average daily traffic  | BSC    | Biological Stream Characterization  |
| AER    | Alternatives Evaluation Report                                     | BSS    | Biologically Significant Stream   |
| AES    | Applied Ecological Services  | CAA    | Clean Air Act   |
| AIMS   | Assessment Information Management System Database                  | CCDD   | Illinois Clean Construction and Demolition Debris                               |
| AL     | Aquatic Life   | CD     | Collector-Distributor   |
| APWA   | American Public Works Association                                  | CED    | Center for Economic Development   |
| AUID   | Assessment Unit Identification                                     | CEQ    | Council on Environmental Quality  |
| AOA    | Airport Operations Area  | CERCLA | Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Information Act |
| APE    | Area of Potential Effects  |        |   |

|                 |  |        |   |
|-----------------|--|--------|---|
| CERCLIS         | Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Information System | DHPA   | Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology |
| CFR             | Code of Federal Regulations  | DNR    | Department of Natural Resources                           |
| cfs             | Cubic Feet Per Second  | DO     | Dissolved Oxygen  |
| CH <sub>4</sub> | Methane  | DOA    | Department of Agriculture                                 |
| CMAP            | Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning   | DOW    | Division of Water   |
| CMP             | Congestion Management Process  | DPSCA  | Des Plaines State Conservation Area                       |
| CN              | Canadian National Railroad   | DPSFWA | Des Plaines State Fish and Wildlife Area                  |
| CO              | Carbon Monoxide  | EcoCAT | Ecological Compliance Assessment Tool                     |
| CO <sub>2</sub> | Carbon Dioxide   | EDC    | Economic Development Council                              |
| COA             | Conservation Opportunity Area  | EIS    | Environmental Impact Statement                            |
| ComEd           | Commonwealth Edison  | EJ     | Environmental Justice                                     |
| COSIM           | Carbon Monoxide Screen for Intersection Modeling                                   | EMS    | Emergency Management Services                             |
| CPG             | Corridor Planning Group  | EPCRA  | Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act        |
| CREATE          | Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency                         | ESA    | Endangered Species Act                                    |
| CREP            | Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program   | FAA    | Federal Aviation Administration                           |
| CRP             | Conservation Reserve Program   | FBC    | Full Body Contact   |
| CSS             | Context Sensitive Solutions  | FC     | Fish Consumption  |
| CWA             | Clean Water Act  | FEIS   | Final Environmental Impact Statement                      |
| dB(A)           | A-Weighted Decibel   | FEMA   | Federal Emergency Management Agency                       |
| DEIS            | Draft Environmental Impact Statement   | FHWA   | Federal Highway Administration                            |

|        |  |          |   |
|--------|--|----------|---|
| FIRMs  | Flood Insurance Rate Maps                  | IDEM     | Indiana Department of Environmental Management  |
| FIS    | Flood Insurance Study                      | IDOT     | Illinois Department of Transportation           |
| FPDWC  | Forest Preserve District of Will County    | IEPA     | Illinois Environmental Protection Agency        |
| FRA    | Federal Railroad Administration            | IHPA     | Illinois Historic Preservation Agency           |
| FTA    | Federal Transit Administration             | IHSSI    | Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory |
| GARVEE | Grant Anticipate Revenue Vehicle Bond      | IIBS     | Illinois Inventory of Burial Sites              |
| GHG    | Greenhouse Gas                             | ILCS     | Illinois Compiled Statutes                      |
| GIS    | Geographic Information System              | ILOIL    | Illinois Oil and Gas Resources                  |
| GPTC   | Gary Public Transit Corporation            | IMTA     | Indiana Motor Truck Association                 |
| GRP    | Gross Regional Product                     | INAI     | Illinois Natural Areas Inventory                |
| GSU    | Governors State University                 | INDOT    | Indiana Department of Transportation            |
| HC     | Hydrocarbons                               | INHS     | Illinois Natural History Survey                 |
| HHEI   | Headwater Habitat Evaluation Index         | IO Model | Input Output Model                              |
| HHS    | US Department of Health and Human Services | IPSAWG   | Invasive Plant Species Assessment Work Group    |
| HMTA   | Hazardous Materials Transportation Act     | INSGS    | Indiana State Geological Survey                 |
| HOT    | High Occupancy Toll                        | ISA      | Initial Site Assessment                         |
| HOV    | High Occupancy Vehicle                     | ISAS     | Illinois State Archaeological Survey            |
| HQAR   | High Quality Aquatic Resource              | ISGS     | Illinois State Geological Survey                |
| HUC    | Hydrologic Unit Code                       | ISM      | Illinois State Museum                           |
| I&M    | Illinois and Michigan                      | ISTHA    | Illinois State Toll Highway Authority           |
| IAC    | Indiana Administrative Code                |          |   |
| IBI    | Index of Biotic Integrity                  |          |   |
| IC     | Indiana Code                               |          |   |

|        |   |                  |   |
|--------|---|------------------|---|
| ITS    | Intelligent Transportation Systems                      | MBTA             | Migratory Bird Treaty Act                       |
| INVEST | Infrastructure Voluntary Evaluation Sustainability Tool | MMI              | Modified Mercalli Intensity                     |
| IWPA   | Interagency Wetland Policy Act                          | MOA              | Memorandum of Agreement                         |
| JATA   | Joliet Army Training Area                               | MOU              | Memorandum of Understanding                     |
| JADA   | Joliet Arsenal Development Authority                    | mph              | Miles Per Hour                                  |
| KATS   | Kankakee Area Transportation Study                      | MPSD             | Municipal Point Source Discharge                |
| KCRPC  | Kankakee County Regional Planning Commission            | MSATs            | Mobile Source Air Toxics                        |
| LBP    | Lead-based paint  | MTP              | Metropolitan Transportation Plan                |
| LCDB   | Lake County Drainage Board                              | N <sub>2</sub> O | Nitrous Oxide                                   |
| LID    | Low-Impact Development                                  | NAAQS            | National Ambient Air Quality Standard           |
| LOS    | Level of Service  | NAC              | Noise Abatement Criteria                        |
| LRMP   | Land Resource Management Plan                           | NAFTA            | North American Free Trade Agreement             |
| LRTP   | Long Range Transportation Plan                          | NASS             | National Agricultural Statistics Service        |
| LQG    | Large Quantity Hazardous Waste Generator                | NCHRP            | National Cooperative Highway Research Program   |
| LUST   | Leaking Underground Storage Tank                        | NEG              | New Economic Geography                          |
| LWCF   | Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965            | NEPA             | National Environmental Policy Act               |
| MAP-21 | Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act       | NESCA            | Nongame and Endangered Species Conservation Act |
|        |   | NFIP             | National Flood Insurance Program                |

|                 |   |                   |  |
|-----------------|---|-------------------|--|
| NFRAP           | No Further Remediation Action Planned             | OHWM              | Ordinary High Water Mark                                 |
| NGVD            | National Geodetic Vertical Datum                  | ORC               | Office of Resource Conservation                          |
| NHL             | National Historic Landmark                        | OSFM              | Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshall               |
| NHPA            | National Historic Preservation Act                | OSLAD             | Open Space Land Acquisition and Development              |
| NICTD           | Northern Indiana Commuter Transit District        | OWR               | Office of Water Resources                                |
| NIPC            | Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission         | P3                | Public-private partnership                               |
| NIRo            | Northwest Indiana Robotic Telescope               | PA                | Programmatic Agreement                                   |
| NIRPC           | Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission | PAB               | Private Activity Bond                                    |
|                 |   | PAHs              | Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons                         |
|                 |   | Pb                | Lead   |
| NO <sub>2</sub> | Nitrogen Dioxide                                  | PC                | Primary Contact  |
| NOx             | Oxides of Nitrogen                                | PEM               | Palustrine Emergent Wetland                              |
| NOI             | Notice of Intent                                  | PESA              | Preliminary Environmental Site Assessment                |
| NPDES           | National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System   | PFO               | Palustrine Forested Wetland                              |
| NPL             | National Priorities List                          | PHWH              | Headwater Habitat  |
| NRCS            | Natural Resources Conservation Service            | PM                | Particulate Matter                                       |
| NRHP            | National Register of Historic Places              | PM <sub>10</sub>  | Particulate Matter less than 10 micrometers in diameter  |
| NRI             | Nationwide Rivers Inventory                       | PM <sub>2.5</sub> | Particulate Matter less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter |
| NS              | Norfolk Southern Railroad                         | ppm               | parts per million  |
| NWI             | National Wetland Inventory                        | PSG               | Project Study Group                                      |
| O <sub>3</sub>  | Ozone   | PSS               | Palustrine Scrub-Shrub Wetland                           |

|                |   |                 |   |
|----------------|---|-----------------|---|
| PUB            | Palustrine<br>Unconsolidated Bottom<br>Wetland  | SHPO            | State Historic<br>Preservation Office         |
| PWSS           | Public Water Supply<br>Systems  | SIB             | State Infrastructure Bank                     |
| QHEI           | Qualitative Habitat<br>Evaluation Index   | SIP             | State Implementation<br>Plan                  |
| RBA            | Regional Bus Authority  | SO <sub>2</sub> | Sulfur Dioxide                                |
| RCP            | Resource Conservation<br>Priorities   | SOV             | Single Occupancy Vehicle                      |
| RCRA           | Resource Conservation<br>and Recovery Act   | SR              | State Route                                   |
| RCRIS          | Resource Conservation<br>and Recovery<br>Information System                                       | SRP             | Site Remediation<br>Program                   |
| RDF            | Recycling and Disposal<br>Facility  | SSA             | South Suburban Airport                        |
| REC            | Recognized<br>Environmental Condition   | SSURGO          | Soil Survey Geographic<br>Database            |
| RF             | Radio Frequency   | STAA            | Surface Transportation<br>Assistance Act      |
| ROD            | Record of Decision  | STIP            | Statewide Transportation<br>Improvement Plan  |
| ROW            | Right of Way  | STORET          | Storage and Retrieval                         |
| RVM            | River Valley Metro  | SWANCC          | Solid Waste Agency of<br>Northern Cook County |
| RTA            | Regional Transportation<br>Authority  | SWCD            | Soil and Water<br>Conservation District       |
| RTP            | Regional Transportation<br>Plan   | SWG             | State Wildlife Grant                          |
| SAFETEA-<br>LU | Safe, Accountable,<br>Flexible, and Efficient<br>Transportation Equity<br>Act: A Legacy for Users | SWPPP           | Storm Water Pollution<br>Prevention Plan      |
| SC             | Secondary Contact   | SWS             | SouthWest Service                             |
| SESC           | Soil Erosion and<br>Sediment Control  | TDS             | Total Dissolved Solids                        |
| SHAARD         | Indiana State Historic<br>Architectural and<br>Archaeological Research<br>Database                | TCM             | Transportation Control<br>Measure             |
|                |   | TEA             | Transportation Equity<br>Act                  |

|        |  |       |   |
|--------|--|-------|---|
| TEU    | Twenty-foot Equivalent Units                             | USEIA | US Energy Information Administration          |
| THT    | Truck hours of travel                                    | USEPA | US Environmental Protection Agency            |
| TIFIA  | Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act | USFS  | US Forest Service                             |
| TIP    | Transportation Improvement Program                       | USFWS | US Fish and Wildlife Service                  |
| TMA    | Transportation Management Area                           | USGS  | US Geological Survey                          |
| TMDL   | Total maximum daily load                                 | UST   | Underground Storage Tank                      |
| TRI    | Toxic Release Inventory                                  | V/C   | Volume to capacity                            |
| TSM    | Transportation System Management                         | VHT   | Vehicle hours of travel                       |
| TSPR   | Transportation System Performance Report                 | VMT   | Vehicle miles of travel                       |
| TSS    | Total Suspended Solids                                   | VOC   | Volatile Organic Compounds                    |
| TTF    | Technical Task Force                                     | vpd   | Vehicles Per Day                              |
| TUC    | Transportation/Utility Corridor                          | VRP   | Voluntary Remediation Program                 |
| UNT    | Unnamed Tributary  | WAP   | Wildlife Action Plan                          |
| UPRR   | Union Pacific Railroad                                   | WCRP  | Wildlife Conservation and Restoration Program |
| USACE  | US Army Corps of Engineers                               | WHPA  | Wellhead Protection Area                      |
| U.S.C. | US Code  | WQC   | Water Quality Certification                   |
| USCG   | US Coast Guard   | WQV   | Water Quality Volume                          |
| USDA   | US Department of Agriculture                             | WWTP  | Waste Water Treatment Plant                   |
| USDOT  | US Department of Transportation                          |       |   |

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